

CRYPTOGRAPHIC KEY DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR
DIGITAL VIDEO SYSTEMS

ABSTRACT

5 A system and method for distribution of cryptographic keys to data encryption and decryption devices used to protect digital video/multimedia data transmitted over a display link between a digital video/multimedia source and a display device are provided. The digital data from a
10 digital video/multimedia source, such as, for example, a Digital Versatile Disk (DVD) player, is encrypted prior to transmission on the display link. The encrypted digital video/multimedia data is received from the display link transmitter, decrypted and sent to a display device.
15 Secure digital data input lines are used to load cryptographic keys into RAM on the same integrated circuit as the encryption device. A public key system is used to cipher the video decryption keys, so that the decryption keys can be sent to the display link receiver. Use of key
20 management and storage that are external to the data encryption or decryption devices enables downloading of new keys from external key sources.